also instructed the Indian Missions in Iraq, Jordan and Kuwait to extend all possible assistance to the Indians in Iraq wishing to return to India.

Unsafe Atomic Establishments

†2440. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a solution to the danger of Atomic war between India and Pakistan has been found out;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Atomic Establishments in Pakistan are not safe and they are within reach of the terrorists; and

(d) if so, the arrangements being made by Government to deal with this situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Expert level talks on Nuclear Confidence Building Measures between India and Pakistan were held in New Delhi on 19-20 June, 2004. The two sides agreed to establish a hotline between the Foreign Secretaries and improve communication links between the Director Generals of Military Operations. They also agreed to work towards an agreement on pre-notification of missile tests.

(c) and (d) There have been concerns expressed in this regard. Government constantly monitors developments in our neighbourhood and takes measures to safeguard the country's security interests.

Discrimination in the name of airport security

2441. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether harassment and active discrimination against Asian and other non whites in the name of airport security has been reported by a Delhi Architect woman in July 2004; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the action taken to take up the matter with the appropriate counterparts in Austria for redressal of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. An incident of harassment of a Delhi-based lady architect at Vienna airport has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) Government took up the matter with the Austrian Government and the Austrian Government has undertaken an internal investigation into this allegation.

Invalidating Indian passports for Iraq

2442. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided not to make the passports of Indians valid for Iraq for the time being;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) the number of people to be affected by this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Taking into account the current security situation in Iraq, Government of India have, for the time being, advised its citizens to defer their visits to that country and decided that the Protector of Emigrants, while giving emigration clearance for Kuwait and Jordan, will endorse a "NOT VALID FOR TRAVEL TO IRAQ" stamp in the passports. The Government have also sought cooperation of the Governments of Kuwait and Jordan to prevent Indian nationals from crossing over to Iraq. This measure is motivated out of concern for the safety and security of Indian nationals.

(c) It is difficult to give an estimate on this point.

India's claim for permanent seat in Un Security Council

2443. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Germany is backing India's claim for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council;